

raised catfish. The truth is that it is not farm raised, and I am not even sure it is catfish. Last year, imports of Vietnamese catfish totaled 7 million pounds, more than triple the 2 million pounds imported in 1999 and more than 12 times the 575,000 pounds imported in 1998.

In Vietnam, these so-called catfish, also known as basa, can be produced at a much lower cost, due to cheap labor and less stringent environmental regulations. In fact, many of these fish are grown in floating cages in the Mekong River, exposing the fish to pollutants and other conditions. They are then dumped into American markets and often marketed as farm-raised catfish. Many catfish producers believe that these imports have taken away as much as 10 percent of our markets here at home.

It is really quite simple. Farmers do not mind competition, but they do mind when the competition is unfair and untruthful. This is why today my colleagues, including the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BERRY), the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS), and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. PICKERING) introduced, along with me, a bipartisan bill, H.R. 2439, the Ross-Berry-Pickering bill, that would amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to require retailers to inform consumers of the country of origin of the fish that they sell.

Under the bill, all fish would be covered. Each retailer would be required to notify the consumer at the final point of sale of the country of origin of the fish. And a fish product could only be designated as being from the United States if it is from a farm-raised fish that is exclusively born, raised, and processed in the United States.

When our consumers go into the store and ask for farm-raised catfish, they deserve to know what they are getting is actually farm raised and catfish. By letting consumers know where the product is coming from, this bill will encourage the people in Arkansas and all across America to buy catfish grown by our farm families, not fish grown in a polluted river in another country.

I urge my colleagues to join me in protecting consumers and to support a level playing field for America's farm-raised fish producers by supporting this measure.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JUDGE STANLEY MOSK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to join others from our California delegation in paying tribute to the memory of Justice Stanley Mosk; to salute his career and the legacy that he has left for the people of California and for the people of this country.

Justice Mosk was in public service for 60 years. He was a trial judge on the Superior Court of Los Angeles. He served as the Attorney General for the State of California. He was the longest serving member in the State Supreme Court's 151 year history. He served on the court for 37 years under five chief justices until his death at the age of 88 on June 19. During that period of time, he wrote almost 1,700 opinions, including landmark rulings that established new precedents in civil and criminal law.

I also want to speak not just to the accomplishments and positions that Justice Mosk held, but to the fact that in this country we now take for granted that people from different racial and ethnic groups serve in public office. It is not surprising to people any longer to see people of different ancestry being out front as public officials. Last year, when Senator JOE LIEBERMAN ran on the national ticket for vice president, it was a first, but it really brought about no particular reaction in the country one way or the other. He was judged as an individual on his candidacy, on his program, and on his service.

Well, when Stanley Mosk ran for office as the first American Jew running for statewide office in California, people were very nervous about his candidacy. In those days, American Jews were very active in politics, they were active in public service, but there was an enormous hesitancy to run for public office, to be out front in public office and to be in a visible position. When Justice Mosk ran for Attorney General, there was a lot of concern and trepidation about his candidacy, but he was elected with the largest majority of any of the candidates in that year.

Those of us who are Jewish and from California looked at his career and his accomplishments with an enormous sense of pride because he lived up to the highest standards of anybody in public office. He was a forerunner for people of Jewish background and religion to be in public office, and now it is not unusual at all. When I ran, over 25 years ago, for the House of Representatives, even as of that recent time, I was the first Jewish American to be elected ever in Southern California, and the first one in the State of California in 40 years.

I think that the fact that we have American Jews in districts with large Jewish populations and States with no Jewish populations to speak of is a tribute to America. But it is also because of the role that a man like Stanley Mosk played because when he took the positions that he took as a judge, as the Attorney General, as a justice of the State Supreme Court, he remembered that he was a forerunner for other Jews and he remembered also that other Americans of various minority backgrounds were going to be faced with hurdles and his knowledge of that fact led him to be a champion of civil rights and individual liberties.

I will not reiterate all the accomplishments, the policies that he set out. Some of my colleagues have done so in their remarks today. But I do want to note for everyone that Justice Mosk stands as a giant in the judicial field and as a great public servant for the State of California in every capacity in which he held that position. He was a mentor to a whole generation of Jewish activists, and he will be well remembered and sorely missed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members not to refer to individual Senators.

AMERICA'S ENERGY POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, this evening I rise, hopefully to be joined by others, to discuss the energy situation in the United States of America. It was James Watt, when President Bush unveiled the national energy policy, so-called here in this blue book, who said, "Well, they just took out my work of 20 years ago." This is James Watt, mind you, not exactly an enlightened individual when it comes to present-day energy policy. He said, "They just dusted off my work of 20 years ago. It is really good work." A 20-year-old energy policy for the 21st century?

Well, after I read through it, upon hearing Mr. Watt's comments, I would observe it a little differently. I would say this is not James Watt's energy policy of 1980, this is actually our father's energy policy. It is much more 1950s energy policy. It is Dick Cheney's energy policy, and it reflects a bygone era of limitless frontiers, dig, drill, and burn. It is not and does not offer America a new sustainable and more affordable energy path to the next century.

So we will be talking about that a bit tonight, about electricity, electric deregulation, and other subjects. But before I go there, I would like to recognize the gentlewoman from California who introduced important legislation today in the area of our future energy supply to talk a bit about her proposal.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Oregon for organizing this special order tonight because the timing is absolutely perfect. We have just returned from the July 4 district work period and House committees are gearing up to tackle energy policy.

Since passing the national Energy Policy Act in 1972, Congress has generally ignored energy issues, but energy problems in California and higher prices for natural gas and oil throughout the country have brought energy back to the top of our Nation's agenda.